

In the Health4Growth project 11 European partners joined forces to improve **the effectiveness of regional development policies** regarding the operational environment of local and regional economic players within the **health sector**. At this moment the State of Play Report of each partner is ready and Good Practices are collected. This newsletter is all about the Thematic Workshops that the partners organised.

### Project partners

- Municipality of Debrecen
- Thomas More
- IPN Incubator
- University of Debrecen
- City of Leuven
- CISE
- Vidzeme Planning Region
- Maribor Development Agency
- Municipality of Varna
- Province of Turin
- Brainport Development nv

More info: [www.health4growth.eu](http://www.health4growth.eu)

### The Valley of Death, by Brainport Development

For the Health4Growth project Brainport Development organized on 6<sup>th</sup> of June a Thematic Workshop on "The Valley of Death" and on 7<sup>th</sup> of June a Good Practice Visit in which the Cooperative Slimmer Leven 2020 presented itself. This thematic workshop was all about a financial difficulty that start-ups often face, namely "the Valley of Death". "The Valley of Death" is a phase in the development of start-up high tech companies in which they often have to deal with serious funding problems. It refers to the difficulty of covering the negative cash flow in the early stages of a start-up, before their new product or service is bringing in revenue from real customers. Many companies do not survive this phase.

Lector Onno Lint briefed the audience during a mini-lecture about 'Bridging Finance and Strategy'. Venture capitalist Eric van den Eijnden gave an introduction on "Startup Bootcamp". In Startup Bootcamps start-ups can make use of mentors, funding and investors. The purpose of Startup Bootcamp is to create a good ecosystem in which start-ups can develop themselves, and it leads to a global network of investors, companies and entrepreneurs.



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### Thematic Conference and Workshop in Debrecen

On the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of April, the Municipality of Debrecen organized a thematic conference and workshop about Health, Industry and Innovation.

### Thematic Conference: Health, Industry and Innovation for Horizon 2014-2020

The conference on April 24<sup>th</sup> focused on an international overview of the Health4Growth Project. The EU Cohesion Policy Funding was discussed with a special reference to Horizon 2014-2020. The conference underlined the importance of the interconnection between Innovation in Health Industry, Intelligent Specialization within Hungarian regions and how to capitalize on the current experience and conjugate them with future funding opportunities, in order to create a vibrant environment to lead the regional development.

### Thematic Workshop: Technology Transfer in the Health Industry

The Thematic workshop on April 25<sup>th</sup> was an exchange of experiences within Europe, with their peculiarities, and the integration of the strengths and shortcomings. In the workshop the following good practices were presented: 2i3T Incubator of University of Turin, the IPN Incubator and the Technology Investment Programme of the University of Debrecen.

The workshop was concluded with a site visit to the University Campus and the Life Science Building and Library of the University of Debrecen, as one of the most rapidly developing knowledge centers of the Eastern Central European region. University of Debrecen creates here a superb environment for cooperation between researchers, companies and investors. The Life Science Research Center contains 150 specific research labs and a science library was placed in Debrecen on the "Nagyerdei" Campus, at the end of the Egyetem Avenue, beneath the monumental historical main building planned by Flóris Korb. The integrating development of the Agricultural, Medical and Science Faculties is specialized on genetic research and education.



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## Health4Growth @ Region Emilia Romagna High-Tech Networks' Campus Cloud on Agro-Food & Life-Sciences

As a member of Emilia-Romagna Region's High-Tech Network, CISE – the local Health4Growth partner – briefly introduce Health4Growth to the participants of a campus cloud meeting on the existing and possible connections between the agro-food and the life-sciences sectors.



## IPN Incubadora presents

On May 21<sup>st</sup> IPN organised a workshop on Good Practices in Coimbra. IPN - Incubadora is the business incubator of the Pedro Nunes Institute of Coimbra. Created in 1995 with the aim of stimulating entrepreneurship and promoting the creation of spin-off companies, it aims to support innovative technology-based ideas emerging directly from the research laboratories of IPN, or from higher education institutions, or by the private sector or even from RTD project partnerships with industry. IPN Incubadora won the "Best Science-Based Incubator" in 2010.

## The Instituto Pedro Nunes (IPN)

IPN is an association for the development in science and technology created in 1991, on the initiative of the University of Coimbra. IPN is an interface between the scientific environment and the business world, with the aim of connecting these two worlds to promote mutual understanding, the development of networks based on concrete projects and, above all, the transfer of knowledge and technology. **IPN** acts in particular on:

- Research and Technological Development (RTD), consulting and specialized services;
- specialized training and dissemination of science and technology;
- incubation of companies and business ideas





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## Invitation 23 & 24 September, City of Leuven, Belgium: Workshop on 'Incubating innovative entrepreneurship in healthcare'

On 23 and 24 September 2013, the City of Leuven and Thomas More organize the workshop "Incubating innovative entrepreneurship in healthcare". Explore local and international good practices and get inspired by personal experiences of different stakeholders and entrepreneurs within health care in this two-day workshop

### 23 September

Learn about the current achievements, future perspectives and strategies of a series of **international incubators**, followed by a pitch presentation and discussion on local good practices.

### 24 September

Two **guided tours** around imec and campus Gasthuisberg of the University Hospitals Leuven offer you a close look on internationally renowned organizations. In the afternoon, the focus is on the **regulatory framework**. There is a vast interface between regulation and entrepreneurship in health care. Regional stakeholders and a number of innovative health care entrepreneurs share their perceptions on certain threats and opportunities, by discussing new models of collaboration, innovation and entrepreneurship in health care.

This two-day workshop provides a platform for discussion and networking and will bring together stakeholders from academia, industry, service providers and government as well as international Health4Growth partners.

Participation is free. Registration and information on: <http://www.leuven.be/ondernemen-in-leuven/home/economische-ontwikkeling/subscriptionformhealth4growth.jsp>

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## Invitation 29 & 30 October, Vidzeme, Latvia: Workshop on 'Health sector development: regional specialization, cooperation and commercialization' and Study Visits

Vidzeme region specializes in healthy and innovative food production and tries to occupy the market niche of healthy food with high added value. Healthy food production is organised around a cluster facilitating collaboration between business entities, public authority and research institutes. It is a good cooperation practice between different players of the healthy food sub-sector.

On October 29<sup>th</sup> the thematic workshop will be focused on three main aspects: cooperation, specialization and commercialization of the health care sector. Good practices of cluster development and a showcase of health care services development in Latvia will be shared at the workshop. We will also look at the success stories from other European regions: Debrecen (Hungary) and Forlì (Italy). The thematic workshop will start with experts' presentations of the topic; afterwards participants are working in groups discussing best instruments for developing health entrepreneurship and their local transferability.

On October 30<sup>th</sup> we will have study visits. The study visit event will start with a visit in Vidzeme hospital. Vidzeme hospital is providing innovative, safe and accessible health care services by offering modern health care technologies, comfortable infrastructure and personnel management technologies, and services of qualified medical personal. Afterwards we will visit high quality and healthy food cluster SME's. High quality and healthy food cluster is promoting the production of healthy and high quality food and the development of food production enterprises in Vidzeme region by organizing cooperation and knowledge transfer between business entities, education and research institutions.

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## HEALTH4GROWTH MID-TERM EVENT, TORINO 23-25 OCTOBER 2013

*“Healthcare as a territorial development driver”*



The **Province of Torino**, a Health4Growth keynote partner of the project will host the Mid-Term event on October 23-25, 2013 in Torino (Italy), nestled in the north-western corner of Italy, and today considered one of Europe's most elegant old cities, having plenty to offer to visitors. The Mid-Term event will be held on **October 23** at the 2i3T Incubator of the University of Turin.

The Mid-Term event will have a special focus on the role of SMEs and on stakeholders involvement within the healthcare economy. Experts and representatives of different stakeholder groups will discuss on the Good Practices selected from all partners of the H4G-project.



On **October 24**, a dedicated meeting for H4G partners will be organized at the Offices Palace of Turin Province to discuss the ongoing activities. In the afternoon study visits will be organized to the Molecular Biotechnology Center (<http://www.mbcunito.it/>) and to 2i3T, the Torino University Incubator (<http://www.2i3t.it/en/>).

On **October 25** a study visit will be organized to Bioindustry Park Silvano Fumero Science Park - BiPCa ([www.bioindustrypark.eu](http://www.bioindustrypark.eu)) and to the Cluster Management Organization bioPmed ([www.biopmed.eu](http://www.biopmed.eu)).



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